GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:171
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007
MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR AIR PASSENGERS
Ramadass Prof. M;Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether ambulance services and emergency drugs for the air passengers are not available at some of the airports/airlines in the country ;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Hindustan Times dated July 13, 2007 under the caption, `Ranchi airport denies ambulance to critically-ill girl` ;

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken against the concerned; and

(e) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in respect to the parts (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 171 dated 23rd August, 2007 regarding Medical Facilities for Air Passengers.

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) On 08.07.2007 at 0700 Hrs., the Pilot-in-Command of flight DN 573 (Air Deccan) from Kolkata to Ranchi requested ATC, Ranchi to provide ambulance on arrival for a sick passenger on board. The ambulance, along with the fire & rescue operators, was deployed to bring the sick passenger from the aircraft and render First Aid at the Airport First Aid room. First Aid was provided with the support of a Doctor, incidentally a co-passenger of the patient. The Airline Operator, M/s Air Deccan, had also arranged for an ambulance for shifting the passenger from the Airport for further Medical Attendance, but the guardian of the sick passenger at the Airport, on his own volition, arranged an ambulance and took the custody of the sick passenger at the Airport. An internal investigation conducted by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has found no lapses on part of any of their personnel.

(e) Ambulance Services and Emergency Medicines are available at all operational airports as a part of Airport Rescue & Fire Services and the same are used during aircraft and other emergencies at the airports.